REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. This amendment is

intended to place the claims in a more conventional format and eliminate the multiple

dependency of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: _____

James A. LaBarre
Registration No. 28,632

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: May 7, 2001

<u>**Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated May 7, 2001**</u>

Marked-up Claims 1-8

1.   (Amended) A smart card customizing system [characterised in that it

comprises] <u>comprising</u>:

- at least one customizing machine [(MP) each] equipped with at least one

customizing station [(PP) sending] <u>that sends</u> customizing data requests;

- at least one customizing data server [(SD) delivering] <u>that delivers</u> customizing

data <u>and</u>;

- at least one management interface connected [on the one hand to at least one of

the] <u>to</u> said customizing [machines (MP) and on the other hand to at least one of the]

<u>machine and to</u> said data [servers] <u>server</u> by a bi-directional link, [the] said management

interface receiving [the] said requests[,] <u>and</u> transmitting them to at least one of [the] said

servers <u>as soon as they are received and as soon as said server is available</u>, <u>and</u> receiving

the corresponding response and transmitting it to the requesting customizing station[,

characterised in that the said management interface is able to manage the

transmission of the applications/requests or customizing data requirements to at least one of

the said servers as soon as they are received and as soon as the said server is available].

2.   (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to Claim 1,

[characterised in that the] <u>wherein</u> said management interface coordinates the execution <u>of</u>

<u>at least the following types of tasks</u> at the same time [or periodically and] for each

customizing station [at least the following types of task]:

<u>Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated May 7, 2001</u>

Marked-up Claims 1-8

- monitoring the occurrence of a request,

- monitoring the availability of each server,

- transmitting the request to a server as soon as it is available,

- receiving the data responding to the request, <u>and</u>

- transmitting the response data to the requesting customizing station as soon as they are received.

3.   (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to [one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the] <u>claim 1, wherein</u> said management interface has:

- a computer [(PC)] equipped with a [multiway] <u>multi-port</u> card [(CM)],

- each data server and each customizing station being respectively connected to the computer by a serial link on the [multiway] <u>multi-port</u> card [(CM)], <u>and</u>

- a multitask real-time operating system for operating [the] said tasks at the same time and in real time.

4.   (Amended) A system according to Claim 1, [2 or 3, characterised in that] <u>wherein</u> each customizing station comprises:

- a microprocessor [(TBP)],

- a reader/encoder [(LE)],

<u>**Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated May 7, 2001**</u>

Marked-up Claims 1-8

- a first computer link of the serial type [(LS)] between the microprocessor [(TBP)]

and [the] <u>a</u> computer [(PC)] of the server [(SD)], and

- a second computer link of the serial type [(LLE)] between the microprocessor

[(TBP)] and the reader-encoder [(LE)].

5.   (Amended) A system according to Claim 4, [characterised in that] <u>wherein</u>

the first and second computer links of the serial type [(LS, LLE) of each microprocessor

(TBP)] are produced by connecting [certain] <u>predetermined</u> output terminals [$(V_{pp}$, V_{cc},

CLK, I/O GND)] of an output connector [(COS)] of the microprocessor [(TBP)] to an

adaptation device [(DA)].

6.   (Amended) A system according to Claim 5, [characterised in that] <u>wherein</u>

the adaptation device [(DA)] comprises:

- a switching circuit [(RS)] comprising two switches [(RS1, RS2)] whose input

terminal is connected [in one case (RS1) to the] <u>to a</u> clock output terminal [(CLK) and in

the other case (RS2) to the] <u>and to an</u> output terminal for [the] data signals [(I/O)], the

switching being controlled by a programming signal on [the] <u>another predetermined</u> output

terminal [(V_{pp})],

- two adaptor circuits [(SLA1, SLA2)], the two input terminals of which are each

connected to an output terminal of a switch [(RS1, RS2), the]_, said adaptor circuits also

<u>Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated May 7, 2001</u>

Marked-up Claims 1-8

being connected to [the] <u>an</u> output terminal [(V_{cc})] for the electrical power supply and to

[the earth] <u>a ground reference</u> output terminal [(GND)] of the output connector [(COS)].

7.   (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to [one of the

preceding claims, characterised in that the] <u>claim 1, wherein</u> said server is an enciphering

data server.

8.   (Amended) A system for customizing smart cards according to [one of the

preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises] <u>claim 1, further including</u> a control

device [(DC)] for supplying additional customizing data, [the] said device being connected

by means of a communication bus [(PC)] to each customizing station [(PP)] of a

customizing machine.